## STATE OF RHODE ISLAND PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

IN RE: APPLICATION FOR CERTIFICATION AS : DOCKET NO. 5117

ELIGIBLE RENEWABLE ENERGY RESOURCE : FILED BY UNIVERSITY SOLAR 2, LLC :

NEW GENERATION :

## **ORDER**

On January 20, 2021, University Solar 2, LLC<sup>1</sup> (Company) filed with the Rhode Island Public Utilities Commission (PUC) an application seeking certification for its University Solar 2, LLC Generation Unit, a 4.0 MW AC (5.305 MW DC) solar energy Generation Unit located in West Greenwich, Rhode Island, as an eligible New Renewable Energy Resource in accordance with the PUC's Rules and Regulations Governing the Implementation of a Renewable Energy Standard (Rules) and R.I. Gen. Laws § 39-26-1.

Supplemental and clarifying information was provided to PUC staff and their application review consultant from March 15 through March 16, 2021 in response to the application review consultant's request for said information on February 23, 2021 through March 15, 2021. The supplemental and clarifying information included: a) clarification regarding Commercial Operation Date of the Generation Unit, b) clarification regarding relation to existing unit on site, c) clarification regarding self-reporting, d) verification of site owner relation to account holder in GIS database, and e) updated Appendix B for Authorized Representative.

The application included a request, to the extent required by the PUC, that Thomas Kelly of Natural Capital, LLC be approved as an independent verifier for verifying and

<sup>1</sup> The authorized representative was identified as Kenneth Lehman, 6 University Road, Cambridge, MA 02138. Phone: 617-374-3707. Email: <a href="mailto:KSIAM@kendallsustainableinfrastructure.com">KSIAM@kendallsustainableinfrastructure.com</a> .

reporting appropriate billing records from the Company's Generation Unit to the NEPOOL Generation Information System (GIS).

After examination, the PUC is of the opinion that the application is proper, reasonable, and in compliance with the Rules and hereby grants the Company certification as an eligible renewable energy resource pursuant to R.I. Gen. Laws § 39-26-1.<sup>2</sup> The PUC's determination in this docket is based on the information submitted by the Company and the PUC may reverse its ruling or revoke the Company's certification if any material information provided by the Company proves to be false or misleading.

Accordingly, it is hereby

(24019) ORDERED:

- 1) The University Solar 2, LLC Generation Unit meets the requirements for eligibility as a New, Solar Renewable Energy Resource with its 4.0 MW AC (5.305 MW DC), Grid-Connected Generation Unit having a Commercial Operation Date not yet achieved and located within the NEPOOL control area in West Greenwich, Rhode Island.
- 2) As a Generation Unit which has not yet achieved Commercial Operation, eligibility is granted with a conditional requirement that the Company provide the PUC with independent written documentation verifying Commercial Operation.
  - 3) The Generation Unit's NEPOOL-GIS Identification Number is NON153834.
- 4) Thomas Kelly of Natural Capital, LLC meets the requirements for approval as a Rhode Island Independent Verifier for the Company's Generation Unit.
- 5) The facility's Renewable Energy Certificates (RECs) become Rhode Islandeligible effective on the first day when the Rhode Island certification number is issued. All

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Pursuant to Section 2.6 and other relevant Sections of the Rules, a thirty-day period for public comment was provided during which time no such comments were received.

RECs associated with the production of eligible energy that are minted on or after the Effective Date are eligible for the Renewable Energy Standard.

6) Although the PUC will rely upon the NEPOOL GIS for verification of production of energy from the Company's Generation Unit certified as eligible in this Order, the Company will provide information and access as necessary to the PUC, or persons acting on its behalf, to conduct audits or site visits to assist in verification of continued eligibility for and compliance with Rhode Island Renewable Energy Standard Certification at any time, at the PUC's discretion.

7) The Company shall notify the PUC in the event of a change in the facility's eligibility status.

EFFECTIVE AT WARWICK, RHODE ISLAND ON MARCH 19, 2021

PURSUANT TO AN OPEN MEETING DECISION. WRITTEN ORDER ISSUED

APRIL 5, 2021

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

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Ronald T. Gerwatowski, Chairman

Marion S. Gold, Commissioner

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Abigail Anthony, Commissioner

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**NOTICE OF RIGHT OF APPEAL:** Pursuant to R.I. Gen. Laws § 39-5-1, any person aggrieved by a decision or order of the PUC may, within seven days from the date of the order, petition the Supreme Court for a Writ of Certiorari to review the legality and reasonableness of the decision or order.